IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Welch et al.

Serial No.: 09/889,645

Filed: January 24, 2002

For: TREATING PROTEIN-CONTAINING LIQUIDS

Confirmation No. 8639 Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Agnieszka Boesen

Date: January 24, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Sir/Madam:

Applicants provide the present Response to address the issues raised in the non-final Office Action dated August 24, 2007, and the Interview Summary dated December 5, 2007. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Response and allowance of the present application.

It is not believed that any fee(s), including fees for additional claims, are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this submission. In the event, however, that any requests, petitions or extensions of time for the accompanying response are required to prevent abandonment of this application, Applicants submit that such an extension is also hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and/or a request be granted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this submission may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220, or any overpayment may be credited to the same.

A Listing of the Claims begin on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.